MCC
METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

# Ash Wednesday Service
# March 5, 2014

**Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley**
930 North 4th Street | First Floor
Allentown, PA 18102
610-709-8800
www.mcclv.org | info@mcclv.org
Worshiping every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

**Opening Prayer**

**Opening Song: "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

**Call to Worship**
(L) Before You, Jesus Christ,
we admit how and where
we have underestimated our influence,
letting our words or silences hurt,
abusing trust, betraying confidences.
**(ALL) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.**
(L) We admit how and where
we have made a show of our religion,
attracting more attention to us,
and less to You.
**(ALL) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.**
(L) We admit to where in our lives
we have turned to idols and chased after everything except You.
**(ALL) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy**
(L) Lord Jesus Christ,
if we have looked or longed for an easier gospel,
a lighter cross,
a less demanding savior,
forgive our unfaithfulness,
and, for our better living,
give us not the remedy we desire tomorrow,
but the grace you offer today.
We ask this for your love's sake.
**(ALL) Amen.**

**Statement of Faith**
**We believe in God, who created a good and sacred world. We believe in Christ who came to set us free. We believe in the Holy Spirit, that power within us that gives us stamina to face the truth and live it. Glory to the One in three: Creator, Savior and Holy power of love.**

**Scripture: Exodus 3:1-6**
Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

**Sermon**

**Sermon Response: "Holy Ground"**

**Offering**

**Offering Song: "Be Unto Your Name"**

**Confession (Unison)**
**Eternal and most merciful God, we are people of dust and unworthy of the favors and goodness You shower upon us. God, have mercy upon us. Lift us above every past regret and every present failure. Reveal to us our true selves. Give us grace to accept Your mercy. Give us courage to live by Your promise. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world. Grant us Your peace. Amen.**

**Imposition of Ashes & Anointing Oil: "Just As I Am (I Come Broken)"**

**Commission & Blessing**

(L) In Christ's name, find a cause you can live for, a self you can live with and a Redeemer for whom you can die.
**(ALL) Amen!**

***Closing Song: "Jesus Paid It All"**